


Basic information	
2017/0342(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Subjecting the new psychoactive substance N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4-yl]oxolane-2-carboxamide (tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl; THF-F) to control measures Subject 7.30.30.04 Action to combat drugs and drug-trafficking	

Key players					
Council of the European Union					
European Commission	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Commission DG</th> <th>Commissioner</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Migration and Home Affairs</td> <td>AVRAMOPOULOS Dimitris</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Commission DG	Commissioner	Migration and Home Affairs	AVRAMOPOULOS Dimitris
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Migration and Home Affairs	AVRAMOPOULOS Dimitris				

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
18/12/2017	Preparatory document	COM(2017)0759 	Summary
02/02/2018	Legislative proposal published	05395/2018	Summary
28/02/2018	Committee referral announced in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2017/0342(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	LIBE/8/11875

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE618.026	06/02/2018	
Council of the EU				

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	05395/2018	02/02/2018	Summary
European Commission			
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Preparatory document	COM(2017)0759 	18/12/2017	Summary

Additional information			
Source	Document	Date	
European Commission	EUR-Lex		

Subjecting the new psychoactive substance N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4-yl]oxolane-2-carboxamide (tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl; THF-F) to control measures

2017/0342(NLE) - 18/12/2017

PURPOSE: to subject the new psychoactive substance N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4yl]oxolane-2-carboxamide (tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl; THF-F) to control measures.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Implementing Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the Council adopts the act after consulting the European Parliament but without being obliged to follow the opinion of the European Parliament.

BACKGROUND: on 15 September 2017, following the request made by the Commission and seven Member States and pursuant to [Council Decision 2005/387/JHA](#) on the information exchange, risk-assessment and control of new psychoactive substances, the Council requested an assessment of the risks caused by the use, manufacture and trafficking of the new psychoactive substance **tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl (THF-F)**, the involvement of organised crime and the possible consequences of control measures introduced on this substance.

A **risk assessment report** on the new psychoactive substance was drawn up by the Scientific Committee of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), and was subsequently submitted to the Commission on 14 November 2017.

The main results of the risk assessment are the following:

- tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl is a **synthetic opioid** and is structurally related to fentanyl, a controlled substance widely used in medicine as an adjunct to general anaesthesia during surgery and for pain management. It is sold online in small and wholesale amounts, under the guise of a 'research chemical' or as 'legal' replacement to illicit opioids;
- tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl has been available in the European Union since at least September 2016 and has been seized in one Member State. **14 deaths** have been reported by one Member State where exposure to tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl was confirmed. In at least **12 deaths** tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl was the cause of death or is likely to have contributed to the death.

This substance has **no recognised human or veterinary medical use** in the Union nor, it appears, elsewhere. There is no information on the involvement of organised crime.

The risk assessment report reveals that many of the questions related to tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl could be answered through further research. However, the available evidence and information on the **health and social risks** that the substance poses, given also its similarities with fentanyl and furanylfentanyl, provides sufficient ground for subjecting tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl to control measures across the Union.

CONTENT: the purpose of this proposal for a Council Implementing Decision is to call upon the Member States to **subject the new psychoactive substance tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl (THF-F) to control measures** across the Union and criminal penalties as provided under their legislation by virtue of their obligations under the 1971 United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.

Currently, five Member States control tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl under national drug control legislation and five Member States control it under other legislation.

Subjecting this substance to control measures across the Union would help avoid the emergence of obstacles in cross-border law enforcement and judicial cooperation, and would help protect from the risks that its availability and use can pose.

The United Kingdom shall not take part in the adoption of this Decision.

Subjecting the new psychoactive substance N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4-yl]oxolane-2-carboxamide (tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl; THF-F) to control measures

2017/0342(NLE) - 02/02/2018 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to subject the new psychoactive substance N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4yl]oxolane-2-carboxamide (tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl; THF-F) to control measures.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Implementing Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the Council adopts the act after consulting the European Parliament but without being obliged to follow its opinion.

BACKGROUND: the risk assessment report on **tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl; THF-F** prepared by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) and sent to the Commission and the Council on 14 November 2017 concludes that this substance - which was the subject of 53 seizures in one Member State in 2016 and in the first half of 2017 - is a **synthetic opioid** structurally related to fentanyl, which is a controlled substance widely used in medicine as an adjunct to general anaesthesia during surgery and for pain management.

The substance is typically sold in liquid form, for example in ready-to-use nasal sprays, or in powder form. It is sold online on the surface web in small and wholesale amounts, as a so-called research chemical or as a legal replacement to illicit opioids. It has no recognised human or veterinary medical use in the Union.

One Member State has reported **14 deaths** one case of acute non-fatal intoxication where exposure to the substance was confirmed.

The available evidence and information on the **health and social risks** that the substance poses, given also its similarities with fentanyl and furanylfentanyl, provide sufficient grounds for subjecting tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl to control measures across the Union.

CONTENT: the draft Council decision aims to **subject the new psychoactive substance tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl to the control measures** and criminal penalties provided for by Member States legislation, in accordance with their obligations under the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1971.

For more details, see the summary of the Commission's initial legislative proposal dated 18.12.2017.

Subjecting the new psychoactive substance N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4-yl]oxolane-2-carboxamide (tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl; THF-F) to control measures

2017/0342(NLE) - 18/12/2017 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to subject the new psychoactive substance N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4yl]oxolane-2-carboxamide (tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl; THF-F) to control measures.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Implementing Decision.

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A **risk assessment report** on the new psychoactive substance was drawn up by the Scientific Committee of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), and was subsequently submitted to the Commission on 14 November 2017.

The main results of the risk assessment are the following:

- tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl is a **synthetic opioid** and is structurally related to fentanyl, a controlled substance widely used in medicine as an adjunct to general anaesthesia during surgery and for pain management. It is sold online in small and wholesale amounts, under the guise of a 'research chemical' or as 'legal' replacement to illicit opioids;
- tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl has been available in the European Union since at least September 2016 and has been seized in one Member State. **14 deaths** have been reported by one Member State where exposure to tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl was confirmed. In at least **12 deaths** tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl was the cause of death or is likely to have contributed to the death.

This substance has **no recognised human or veterinary medical use** in the Union nor, it appears, elsewhere. There is no information on the involvement of organised crime.

The risk assessment report reveals that many of the questions related to tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl could be answered through further research. However, the available evidence and information on the **health and social risks** that the substance poses, given also its similarities with fentanyl and furanylfentanyl, provides sufficient ground for subjecting tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl to control measures across the Union.

CONTENT: the purpose of this proposal for a Council Implementing Decision is to call upon the Member States to **subject the new psychoactive substance tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl (THF-F) to control measures** across the Union and criminal penalties as provided under their legislation by virtue of their obligations under the 1971 United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.

Currently, five Member States control tetrahydrofuranylfentanyl under national drug control legislation and five Member States control it under other legislation.

Subjecting this substance to control measures across the Union would help avoid the emergence of obstacles in cross-border law enforcement and judicial cooperation, and would help protect from the risks that its availability and use can pose.

The United Kingdom shall not take part in the adoption of this Decision.